

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DJIBOU 00498 070633Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 TRSE-00 /092 W

-----031756 080229Z /62

R 061500Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 838

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PAIRS

AMEMBASSY SANA

USMISSION USUN NY

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L DJIBOUTI 498

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, PINS, DJ

SUBJ: PRESIDENT AMNESTIES ARMS SMUGGLERS; LOCAL PAPER GIVES

ANOTHER MESSAGE

1. IN ANNOUNCEMENT MADE IN LOCAL PRESS AND RADIO 5-6 APRIL, PRESIDENT HASSAN GOULED GAVE AMNESTY TO VARIOUS PEOPLE ARRESTED IN NORTH OF COUNTRY IN OCTOBER-DECEMBER 1977 IN CONNECTION WITH ARMS CACHES. OBVIOUSLY INTENDED TO PLACATE THE EVER-RESTIVE AFARS, THE IMPACT OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS BLUNTED BY ERROR OF EDITOR LOCAL WEEKLY NEWSPAPER "LE REVEIL," WHO INTERPRETED ANNOUNCEMENT TO MEAN RELEAST OF ACCUSED ASSASSINS IN PALMIER EN ZINC BOMBING INCIDENT.

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2.IT IS UNDERSTOOD OVAT MINISTER OF JUSTICE WILL BE OBLIGED TO GO ON LOCAL RADIO AND TELEVISION THIS EVENING TO EXPLAIN THAT AMNESTY IS FOR ARMS SMUGGLERS AND ACCOMPLICES AND NOT THOSE ACCUSED IN DECEMBER 1977 BAR BOMBING.

3. THIS IS YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF GOVERNMENT'S LACK OF INFORMATION SYSTEM. THERE IS NO ONE IN GOVERNMENT TO WHOM A JOURNALIST MAY CALL TO CHECK INFORMATION VALIDITY. PRESS RELEASES APPEAR ALMOST MIRACULOUSLY FROM PRESIDENTIAL PALACE PRESS ROOM. THE PRESIDENT USUALLY DOES NOT LET HIS CABINET KNOW COLLECTIVELY ANY MATTER OF IMPORTANCE, WITH RESULT THAT TODAY'S SURPRISING PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT CAUGHT SEVERAL MINISTERS COMPLETELY UNAWARE THAT DECISION HAD BEEN MADE. NOMINAL CHIEF OF THE PRESIDENT'S PRESS OFFICE IS NOW IN THE U.S. ON LEADER GRANT. WE HOPE THAT HE BECOMES ACQUAINTED WITH MODERN PRESS OFFICE TECHNIQUES.

CLARKE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMNESTY, ARMS SMUGGLING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3a995cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3058314
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT AMNESTIES ARMS SMUGGLERS; LOCAL PAPER GIVES ANOTHER MESSAGE
TAGS: PDEV, PINS, DJ
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3a995cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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